Broadband Services

Independent School District of Boise

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Why before How

Educational discussions should start with

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National Perspectives

Why is President Obama pushing the ConnectED Initiative?

In June 2013, President Obama announced the ConnectED initiative, designed to enrich K-12 education for every student in America. ConnectED empowers teachers with the best technology and the training to make the most of it, and empowers students through individualized learning and rich, digital content.

Preparing America's students with the skills they need to get good jobs and compete with other countries relies increasingly on interactive, personalized learning experiences driven by new technology. Yet fewer than 40% of America's schools have the broadband they need to teach using today's technology. Under ConnectED, however, 99% of American students will have access to next-generation broadband by 2018. That connectivity will help transform the classroom experience for all students, regardless of income.

The President also directed the federal government to make better use of existing funds to get Internet connectivity and educational technology into classrooms, and into the hands of teachers trained on its advantages. And he called on businesses, states, districts, schools, and communities to support this vision, which requires no congressional action. Following the 2014 State of the Union address, the President announced major progress on the initiative, highlighting commitments by the FCC and the private sector.

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To provide students with the education they need to thrive in a globally connected world, we must find ways to design, fund, acquire, and maintain the infrastructure that will make connectivity a reality for every teacher and student in every classroom.

National Perspectives

Why does the State Educational Technology Directors Association (SETDA) list equity of access as their first priority?

Why does SETDA refer to this discussion as the Broadband Imperative?

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It is a simple fact that access to high speed broadband is now as vital a component of K-12 infrastructure as electricity, air conditioning, and heating. The same tools and resources that have transformed our personal, civic, and professional lives must be a part of learning experiences intended to prepare today's students for college and careers.

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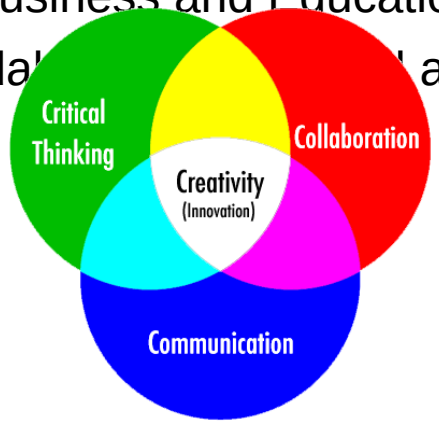
Boise Perspective

Why has the Independent School District of Boise almost tripled its bandwidth in the last two years?

- Approximately 8000 student mobile devices purchased since July of 2014
- BYOD opportunities at every grade level
- Numerous Cloud Based Educational Apps and Digital Tools
  - Google Apps for Education
  - Discovery Education
  - Apple Educational Apps
- Business and Educational Vendors pushing us to the cloud
- Ida and Online educational opportunities



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It is difficult to find an application or device in a classroom, office, or district facility that does not have some reliance on consistent, reliable broadband.

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The Answer...

Students

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How do we address the broadband needs?

National Solutions

- Share funding resources - Changes in e-rate funding
- Share in research and recommendations - SETDA
- Close the Digital Divide - we cannot allow socioeconomic level nor geography to be determining factors for equality of access

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How do we address the broadband needs?

State Solutions

- Learn from our mistakes, but don't allow them to stop us
- Share in research and recommendations
- IETA, Business Community, Governmental Agencies
- Close the Digital Divide - we cannot allow socioeconomic level nor geography to be determining factors for equality of access - this more than just an educational issue

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How do we address the broadband needs?

Boise Solutions

- Put Students and Classroom Teachers first
- Share in research and recommendations
- IETA, SETDA, Conferences, etc.
- Build a long-term plan - use E-rate funds
- Evaluate, Monitor, and Adjust

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Bandwidth Growth

550 Mbps (200 Mbps IEN, 350 Mbps TW) - Fall 2013

650 Mbps (300 Mbps IEN, 350 Mbps TW) - Summer 2014

750 Mbps (300 Mbps IEN, 450 Mbps TW) - Fall 2014

requested additional 100 Mbps from IEN - Late Fall 2014

1.05 Gbps (300 Mbps IEN, 750 Mbps TW) - January 2015

1 Gbps TW - Spring 2015

1.5 Gbps Tek-Hut - July 2015

Currently upgrading Infrastructure to handle 10 Gbps

Average usage in May 2015 - 850 Mbps

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Bandwidth Growth

Two ways to enhance or maximize bandwidth

- Buy More
- Manage Traffic Effectively

Our current practices do not allow students access to Youtube, this is not a filter issue, this is a bandwidth issue.

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Questions or Comments

For a digital view of this presentation, go to https://goo.gl/JPOykg

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